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attention to Clark than to anyone else; his treatment of distribution is in the main that of Clark, except for his dismissal of the "marginal device" as a useless and confusing elaboration. To the general reader the work would be utterly unreadable because of the heavy style and confused thought; while the specialist, for whom it was doubtless written, will find little that is new.

F. R. CLOW.

Kulturgeschichte der Neuzeit. By KURT BREYSIG. Band II: Erste Hälfte, *Urzeit—Griechen—Römer*; Zweite Hälfte, *Entstehung des Christenthums—Jugend der Germanen*. Berlin: Georg Bondi, 1901. 8vo, pp. xxii + 518 and xxxix + 521-1442.

THE continuation of Professor Breysig's *History of Culture in Modern Times* has in every respect kept up to what the introductory volume promised. The treatment of the subject is broad and comprehensive, the opinions expressed are characterized by thorough knowledge of the literature, and above all the book shows understanding and sympathy for the latest, most progressive views without always subscribing to their dictum. The volumes are in every sense modern in tone, and though critical in attitude are not overwhelmed with detail. True to the idea expressed in the first volume, (reviewed in June number of this JOURNAL, 1901), the author never discusses the economic side of civilization except in connection with its social and political features. This attitude, at least as far as the ancient period is concerned, may be justifiable because of the meagerness of the sources and the prevailing interest in political events, but it leaves a gap somewhat painfully felt in the otherwise rather exhaustive treatment. However scant our information, economic problems must have faced the Greeks as they faced all other nations. Notwithstanding the frugality of the race and the advantageous nearness of a large continent, the food question, no less than a large international competition for trade, must have been a serious matter and brought about colonization and the search for new unexplored territories. How the aristocracy with its country estates and retinue of dependents passed over into a city population with a growing industry, a large percentage of strangers and of slaves, which made certain cities metropolises of commerce with shipping companies, factories, money-lenders, yet all the while the

small dealer and the industrial artist existing and perfecting himself in his profession—to these things the author gives but a passing glance. And yet the very existence of structures such as the Acropolis or the temples, the maintenance of long and expensive wars, the maintenance of a fleet which fell to the lot of most cities, and Athens in particular, seem to indicate a far more concerted and powerful effort than one is at first aware of. And the commerce between a mother city and her colonies must have engaged more hands, caused a livelier exchange of products, and brought more real fortune to the citizens than one can even make a guess at. Otherwise Greek civilization in its magnitude and complexity rests upon an economic foundation altogether too insecure for such a towering and expansive edifice. More to the point is the author's treatment of Roman economic conditions, although the agrarian troubles are but touched upon in connection with the revolutionary disorders. But we see at least the progress from home farming on the part of the free owner to the absorption of the numerous small homesteads into large complexes of land held by one, and the gradual change from farming by free into the cultivation by slave labor. Most interesting and in every way instructive is the account of how during the empire, at first for political, later for fiscal reasons, all personal ambition and initiative became paralyzed by a system of corporations and class limits from which finally no one could escape. Thus the reader is made to understand fully the gradual withering and dying off of the recuperative power of the empire, the strange separation of all classes into castes, and a population of half-free tied to the soil as the last phase in a slow process of reducing everyone to a mute and stationary agent. This despairing recourse to methods entirely out of date and seemingly inflicted upon a population of conquered districts instead of upon faithful subjects and privileged citizens, completes the picture of the financial decay of Rome.

The second part of Vol. II has for its contents the history of the Germanic nations. As to the plan of this part of the work, which is by all means the larger one, each of the three leading nations is treated in succession under various aspects, generally speaking in the light of its political, social, economic, intellectual, and religious history. Afterward the less conspicuous ones receive their mention. The period is the first half of the Middle Ages (until 1300). In treating the life of the Middle Ages the author is far more generous in regard to economic matters. In this field research has proceeded at a more rapid

rate and made the past less obscure. On four hundred pages out of a thousand the economic side of mediaeval history is far more thoroughly discussed than was that of the ancient time, although never separate from the social or political changes. It is interesting to notice that nowhere are economic conditions accorded a special paragraph; they are always one of several topics treated in connection. This may be quite right since it is in fact difficult to separate any of them from the other. Still, if the author very seldom allows the economic feature to have a governing or decisive influence, but looks upon it as rather a sustaining and corroborative movement, it seems to us he is not altogether fair. For example, he treats of the large estates of the early nobility and the subsequent creation of a more or less servile tenantry as due merely to the overpowering political ambition of a warrior class (who disregarded husbandry). Whereas we should say that these conditions were in the first place due to the complete absence of commerce and a considerable lack of movable property. The habit of looking upon land and the ownership of land as the only source of wealth and sustenance governed the ambition of everyone, not only of the powerful, as the first step, a strictly economic step, to political rights. The importance of prevailing economic ideas in shaping a nation's destiny ought not to be thus left out of account. These shortcomings admitted, we find the development of manorial estates with more complex and complete functions, the continued differentiation of society which created a class whose business it was to fight and to command and classes whose business it was to provide, a change which must have gladdened the shade of Plato, the continuation of slavery as a soil-bound institution, the beginnings of the *officia*, which have to some extent been parent to the guilds, the guilds themselves in their various aspect, the communes, the cities with their first signs of a rational system of taxation based upon valuation of property, not of service or the right of a military commander to demand contributions in kind and tribute—all these things and many more set forth and discussed at some length. They are treated suggestively and add a fair share of fresh information to what is already known by most students of economic history. The very important rise of the Italian republics during this earlier period, with welcome attention paid to the movements of the guilds, has nowhere, as far as we know, been treated within such small compass with a better grasp of the essentials. Judging from this, and in spite of possible disagreements as to certain matters, which we consider more

and the author less fundamental, we can look forward with lively anticipation to the next issue.

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La sécurité du travail dans l'industrie. (Moyens préventifs contre les accidents d'usines et d'ateliers.) By PAUL RAZOUS. Paris: Vve Ch. Dunod, 1901.

THIS book is devoted to a discussion of means and methods to be applied in industrial establishments in order to guard their employees against accidents. As basis for his work, the author has taken the factory laws of March 10, 1894, and those of April 30, 1880, and June 29, 1886, regulating the use of stationary and portable steam-generating apparatus (pp. 5-19). The meaning and object of each section of the law are discussed, their application to the various industries explained, and directions are given how to conform to the spirit of the regulation.

In chaps. i to v (pp. 21-199) factory buildings, their motors, machinery, and mechanical appliances are considered. We learn that in compliance with the various sections of the laws, motors, flywheels, shafting, pulleys, hoist- and hatchways, stairways and landings, vats and pans, wherever so situated as to be a source of danger to working people, must be railed or fenced in. Two hundred and five cuts illustrate practical safety devices for all sorts of machinery. Useful shields for gearing and friction-cones, safety couplings and collars with protected set-screws are shown, and their application explained. There are designs for automatic doors and safety catches for elevators, and formulæ by which to determine the safe running speed of pulleys and the diameter of shafting. Considerable importance and space are given to woodworking machinery (pp. 123-170), and numerous safeguards of varying construction for circular saws are exhibited. To consider them singly would lead too far. Suffice it therefore to say that all have for their object the protection of the operator against the many serious accidents which are liable to occur by careless operation or from various other causes. Guards for band saws, for jointers and wood shapers, are also presented, and practical shaft attachments for putting on or taking off belts from pulleys. Emery wheels and grindstones are shown provided with safety hoods, flanges, and other appliances.